

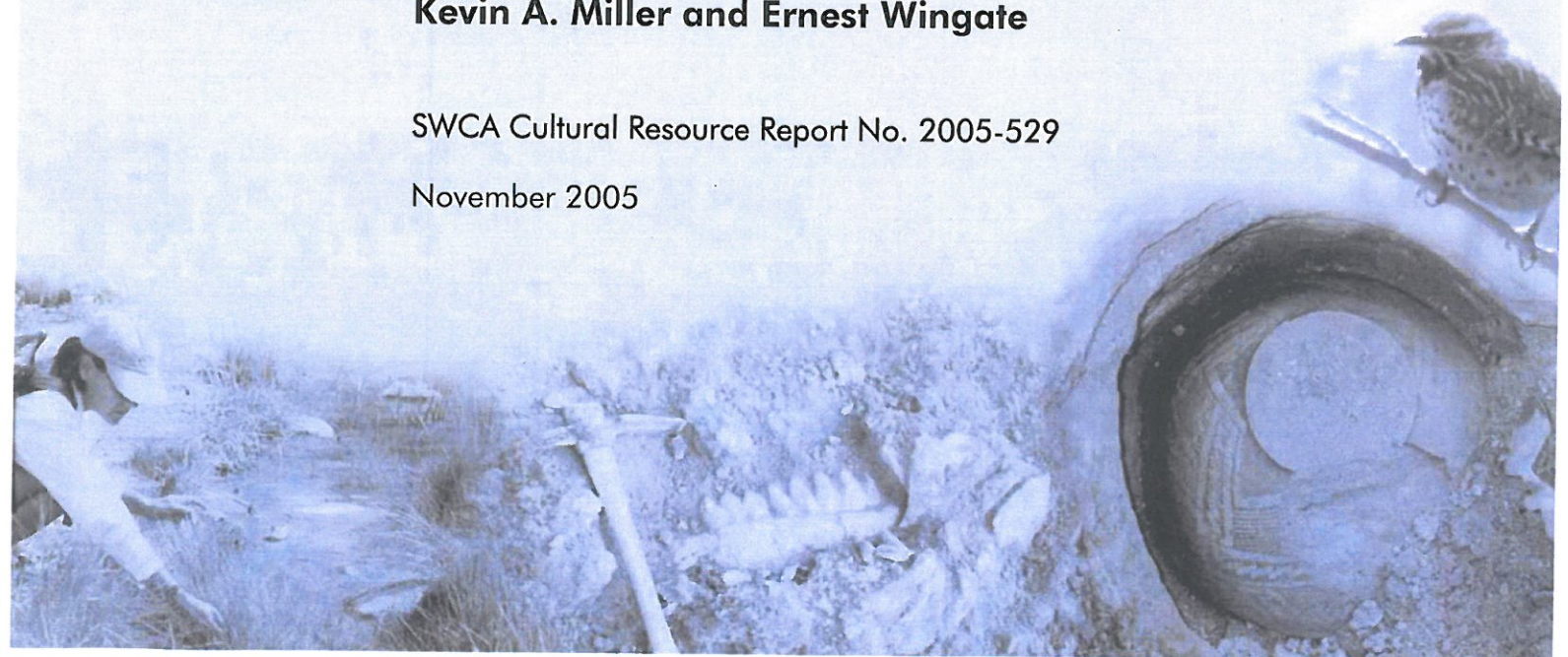
**Cultural Resources Survey of Portions of the
433-Acre Rogers Ranch Subdivision and
Associated Outfall Sewer Main,
Bexar County, Texas**

Prepared for
Bitterblue Inc.

Prepared by
Kevin A. Miller and Ernest Wingate

SWCA Cultural Resource Report No. 2005-529

November 2005



**CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF PORTIONS OF THE 433-ACRE ROGERS
RANCH SUBDIVISION AND ASSOCIATED OUTFALL SEWER MAIN, BEXAR
COUNTY, TEXAS**

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ABSTRACT

This report details the results of an intensive archaeological survey by SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) for the proposed 433-acre Rogers Ranch Subdivision Master Development Plan (MDP) located in northwestern Bexar County, Texas. The project was completed on behalf of Bitterblue Inc. and in compliance with the City of San Antonio's Historic Preservation and Design section of the Unified Development Code. SWCA's investigations included a background literature and records review and an intensive pedestrian survey to systematically identify, record, delineate and, if possible determine the significance of any cultural resources located within the project area. The project area is located just northeast of the intersection of Loop 1604 and NW Military Highway in northwestern Bexar County. In addition to the 433-acre subdivision, the project area includes a roughly 1.2-mile outfall sewer main to be located along Salado Creek.

The background review revealed that portions of the project area centered on Salado Creek have been previously surveyed for cultural resources and eight previously recorded sites (41BX22, 41BX442-446, 41BX875, and 41BX876) are located within or directly adjacent to the project area. Of these, all but one have been found to be non-significant, requiring no further work. The pedestrian survey established that the areas that have not been previously surveyed are composed of a rocky, upland setting with no potential for buried cultural resources. Shovel tests were not excavated in these areas and no new archaeological sites were documented in the project area. Of the eight sites, SWCA revisited four (41BX22, 41BX444-446). SWCA survey revealed disturbances at several sites from looters and confirmed the findings of previous researchers of non-significance for all sites. The proposed sewer main will be aligned within the rocky Salado Creek bed and will not impact any significant cultural resources.

Based on the results of the survey, SWCA recommends no additional archaeological investigations of the eight sites on the Rogers Ranch MDP property.

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE: Cultural Resources Survey of Portions of the 433-acre Rogers Ranch Subdivision and Associated Outfall Sewer Main, Bexar County, Texas

SWCA PROJECT NUMBER: 10465-053

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The 433-acre Rogers Ranch Master Development Plan (MDP) project area is proposed for residential development. SWCA's project included a background literature review and intensive pedestrian survey of portions of the 433-acre property as well as a 1.2-mile outfall sewer main in Salado Creek. The goal of the field survey was to identify and assess any cultural resources that will be impacted by the proposed residential development project.

LOCATION: The project area is located in northwestern San Antonio, Texas. The 433-acre project area is north of Loop 1604 between NW Military Highway and West Bitters Road. The project area is located on the Castle Hills USGS 7.5-minute topographic map.

NUMBER OF ACRES SURVEYED: Approximately 273 acres of the 433-acre tract

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Kevin A. Miller.

DATES OF WORK: October 24-25, 2005.

PURPOSE OF WORK: The project sponsor is fulfilling regulatory requirements in association with the City of San Antonio's Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified Development Code.

NUMBER OF SITES: Eight previously recorded sites within the project area (41BX22, 41BX442 through 41BX446, 41BX875, and 41BX876)

SIGNIFICANCE OF SITES: None of the sites are considered significant or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or as State Archaeological Landmarks.

CURATION: No artifacts were collected, thus nothing was curated.

INTRODUCTION

On behalf of Bitterblue Inc., SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) conducted an archaeological survey of portions of the 433-acre Rogers Ranch Subdivision Master Development Plan (MDP) located in northwestern Bexar County, Texas. The investigations consisted of an archaeological literature and records review and an intensive pedestrian survey of portions of the proposed project area. The purpose of the investigation was to determine if the proposed residential development of the Rogers Ranch tract would affect significant cultural resources and to assist Bitterblue Inc. in complying with the City of San Antonio's Unified Development Code. Kevin A. Miller served as Principal Investigator for the survey and Josh Gibb, Ernest Wingate, and Kevin A. Miller conducted the field investigations on October 24-25, 2005.

Large portions of the Rogers Ranch MDP have been previously surveyed and SWCA conducted field investigations with a focus on the areas that have never been archaeologically surveyed (roughly 273 acres of the 433-acre tract). In addition to the 433-acre tract, the proposed undertaking includes a roughly 1.2-mile outfall sewer main to be located in the Salado Creek bed, an area that has been previously surveyed.

PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION

The Rogers Ranch MDP located just northeast of the intersection of Loop 1604 and NW Military Highway in northwestern Bexar County, Texas. For mapping purposes, the project area is depicted on the Castle Hills, Texas USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map. The project area includes a 433-acre parcel of land for the proposed subdivision expansion. Additionally, the project area includes a roughly 1.2-mile outfall sewer main to be located in Salado Creek (Figure 1).

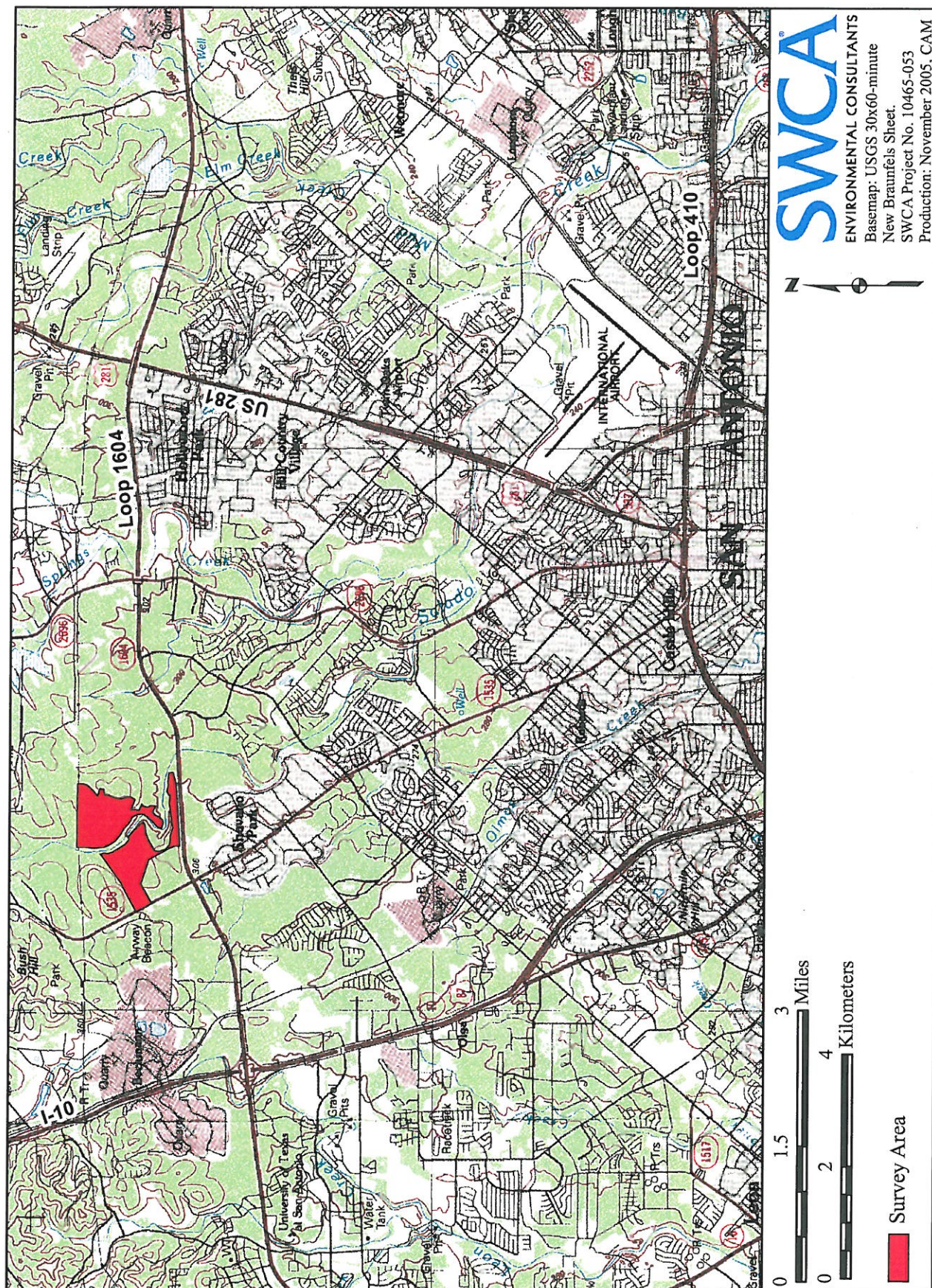
The irregularly-shaped project area includes a rocky, upland environment divided by the Salado Creek drainage (Figure 2). On both the western and eastern sides of the drainage, prominent upland limestone hills covered with dense juniper/oak woodland compose the primary topographic features of the property. These hills are relatively steep-sided with rocky slopes leading down to the creek drainage. Soils are shallow to non-existent across the upland hills and slopes. Salado Creek cuts through this limestone topography, roughly forming a backward "S" pattern. Alluvial terraces with fine sediments are very few in the drainage, usually confined to narrow, linear benches adjacent to the creek. Along its southern end roughly parallel to Loop 1604, the creek cuts deeply into the limestone, forming an almost 100 ft high bluff overlooking the drainage. The creek bed itself (in which the proposed sewer main will be constructed) is composed of limestone boulders and gravels.

Disturbances across the project area are limited to occasional areas of cleared vegetation, fencelines, and two-track dirt roads. Dense residential development forms the eastern margins of the project area while NW Military Highway forms the western boundaries. A large electric powerline and a large limestone quarry form the northern boundary while Loop 1604 forms the southern boundary.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

FLORA AND FAUNA

The project area is located in the Edwards Plateau geographic region of Texas (Black 1989; Spearing 1998). The plateau is a fairly undissected area overlying Cretaceous Edwards Limestone. The plateau corresponds to the Balconian biotic province of Texas defined by Blair (1950). The most characteristic plant association of the province is a scrub forest



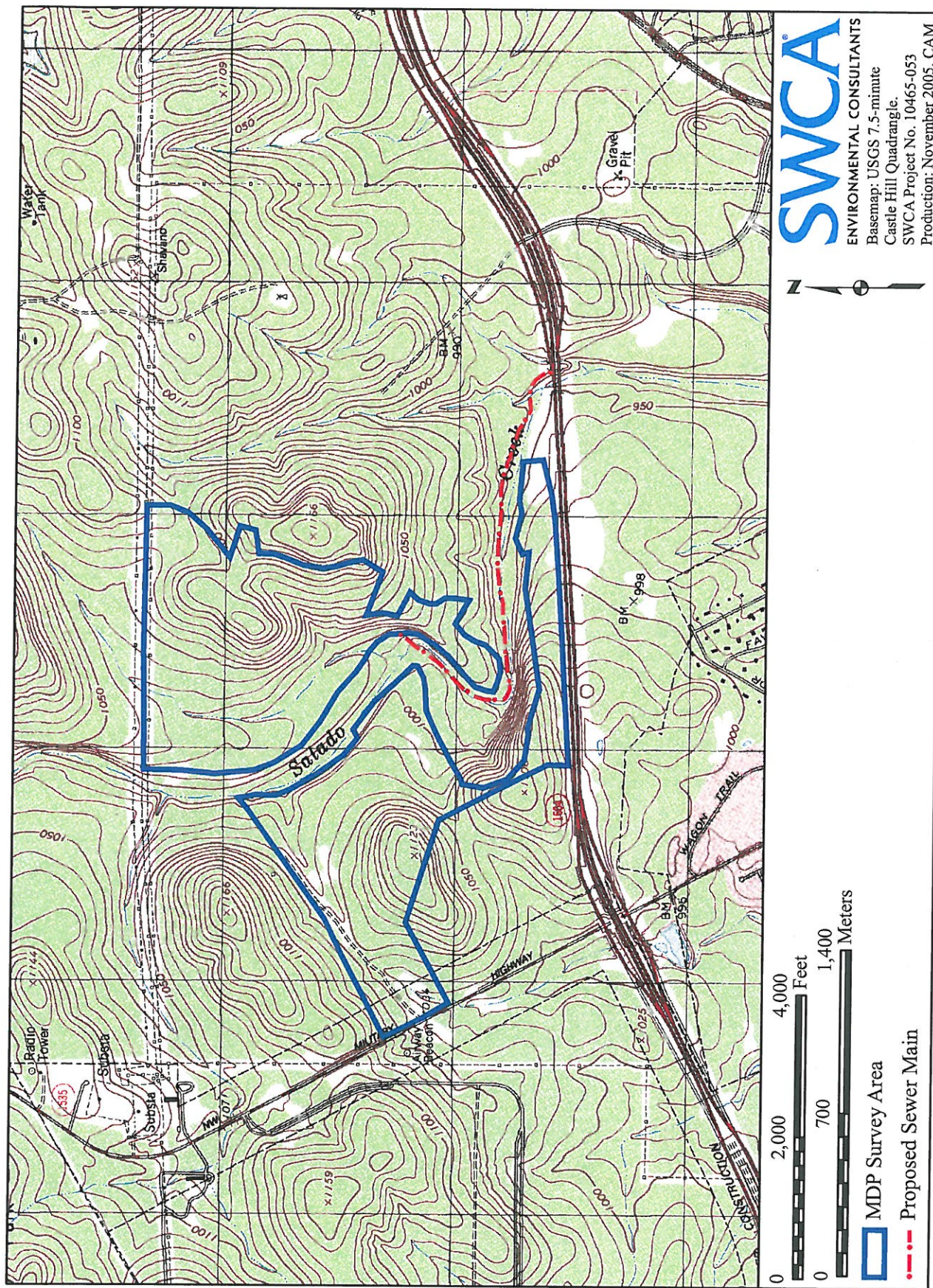


Figure 2. Project area map.

comprising Ashe juniper (*Juniperus ashei*), Texas oak (*Quercus texana*), blackjack oak (*Quercus marilandica*), Lacey oak (*Quercus glaucoides*), Escarpment Live oak (*Quercus fusiformis*), and Live oak (*Quercus Virginia*) with an understory that includes agarita (*Berberis trifoliolata*), prickly pear (*Opuntia Lindheimeri*), claret cup cactus (*Echinocereus triglochidatus*), King Ranch bluestem (*Bothriochloa ischaemum*), Texas bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) and sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) (Gould 2002; Kutac and Caran 1994; Niehaus et al. 1984; Petrides and Petrides 1992; Simpson 1988; Stein et al. 2003). This association is extremely common in the undeveloped portions of the Western Canyon project area.

Other significant species occur in low densities throughout the uplands including cedar elm (*Ulmus crassifolia*), Texas persimmon (*Diospyros texana*), Lindheimer Senna (*Senna lindheimeriana*), twisted-leaf yucca (*Yucca rupicola*), hoary cress (*Cardaria draba*), and honey mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa*) (Everitt et al. 2002; Kricher and Morrison 1993; Little 2002; Spellenberg 1995). Numerous native and imported grasses are found in the open areas throughout the uplands (Van Auken 1988).

Common mammals in the Balconian province include white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), collared peccary (*Dicotyles tajacu*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), nine-banded armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*), western spotted skunk (*Spilogale gracilis*), black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*), rock squirrel (*Spermophilus variegates*), eastern cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), and deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatis*) (Burt and Grossenheider 1976; Davis and Schmidly 1994; Whitaker 1989). In addition to these common mammals, bison (*Bison bison*), mountain lions (*Felis concolor*), and black

bear (*Ursus americanus*) would have been in the area during prehistoric times (Blair 1950).

GEOLOGY

The project area is exclusively mapped as Cretaceous-age Edwards Limestone. These deposits contain abundant fine- to coarse-grained chert, along with fossils and shell fragments. The formation is 300-500 feet thick (Barnes 1983).

SOILS

The project area is mapped as Tarrant soils. These soils consist of stony soils that are very shallow, dark-colored, and gently undulating to steep (Taylor et al. 1962). The surface layer is a very dark grayish-brown, calcareous clay loam and is about 10 inches thick. It has a moderate, fine, subangular blocky structure. Limestone fragments that range from a quarter of an inch to 24 inches in diameter cover about 35 percent of the surface, and angular limestone fragments of similar size make up an estimated 20 percent of this layer, by volume. These soils develop over harder limestone (Taylor et al. 1962). These soils have a very low potential to contain buried cultural resources with good integrity.

CULTURAL SETTING

PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

Portions of the project area (roughly 160 acres) have been surveyed and tested. The previously conducted work consists of three surveys and two NRHP eligibility testing projects. Archaeologists from the Center of Archeological Research (CAR) at The University of Texas at San Antonio performed two surveys on behalf of the Soil Conservation Service in 1974 and 1979. CAR also apparently conducted some limited testing on site 41BX444 in 1978 (Maynard et al. 1990). The

State Department of Highways and Public Transportation conducted NRHP eligibility testing on site 41BX22 in 1984. The site was revisited during a survey performed by Geo-Marine, Inc. for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Ft. Worth District in 1990. Geo-Marine, Inc. also revisited three sites (41BX442–41BX444) previously recorded by CAR and documented additional sites in and around the Rodgers Ranch project area. See below for more information on previously conducted surveys and recorded sites.

CULTURAL HISTORY

The project area lies within the Central Texas archaeological region. The cultural sequence is divided into four periods: Paleoindian, Archaic, Late Prehistoric, and Historic. The prehistoric periods are discussed herein as all cultural resources in the project area are prehistoric in age.

PALEOINDIAN PERIOD

Paleoindian (11,500–8,800 B.P.) sites in Central Texas include deeply buried sites, surface sites, and rockshelters (Collins 1995). Researchers typically describe the period as characterized by small but highly mobile bands of people who were specialized hunters of Pleistocene megafauna, but Paleoindians probably used a much wider array of resources (Meltzer and Bever 1995:59). Two lanceolate-shaped projectile point styles, Clovis and Folsom, typify the early part of the Paleoindian period. Clovis sites occur along the edges of the Edwards Plateau, an area where springs are abundant and chert is readily available (Meltzer and Bever 1995:58). Collins (1995) suggests that Clovis peoples were “well-adapted, generalized hunter-gatherers with the technology to hunt big game but not the need to rely exclusively on it”. In contrast, the folks using Folsom points and associated tool kits, which included thin unfluted (Midland)

points, large thin bifaces, and end scrapers, were probably specialized bison hunters (Collins 1995:382).

ARCHAIC PERIOD

As the Paleoindian period came to an end, humans began to more intensively harvest local floral and faunal resources (Collins 1995). Material culture became more diverse, and the use of burned rock middens and ovens became widespread on the Edwards Plateau. This period is known as the Archaic and dates from approximately 8,800 to 1,200 B.P. in South-Central Texas (Collins 1995; Johnson and Goode 1994). Collins (1995) and Johnson and Goode (1994) subdivide the Archaic into Early, Middle, and Late sub-periods.

Early Archaic (8,800–6,000 B.P.) sites tend to be small, but contain diverse tool assemblages (Weir 1976:115–122). Prewitt (1985:217) interprets this to suggest that populations were highly mobile and densities low. Once thought to be Paleoindian in age, some unstemmed point types such as Angostura are now considered to be the first Early Archaic diagnostic styles (Collins 1995). Around 8,000 B.P., these points were replaced by stemmed varieties such as Early Split Stem, Martindale, and Uvalde (Black 1989; Collins 1995). Most sites were open campsites, although cave sites have also been found (Collins 1995). Current site distribution data suggest that Early Archaic peoples were concentrated along the eastern and southern margins of the Edwards Plateau in areas with more stable water sources (Collins 1995; McKinney 1981). Specialized tools, perhaps used in woodworking and known as Guadalupe and Nueces bifaces, were prevalent in this period (Collins 1995). While subsistence data are sparse, it appears that people were hunting deer and small animals, fishing, and cooking bulbs in earth ovens (Collins 1995). This strategy evolved, in part, due to the extinction of megafauna and the changing climate at the beginning of the

Holocene (McKinney 1981). Cooking with earth ovens proved a successful technology to render many roots and bulbs digestible; many such foodstuffs must be subjected to prolonged periods of cooking to render them consumable and digestible (Black et al. 1997:257; Wandsnider 1997; Wilson 1930).

During the Middle Archaic period (6,000–4,000 B.P.), the number, size, and distribution of sites increased, probably as population densities grew (Prewitt 1981:73; Weir 1976:124, 135). Characteristic Middle Archaic projectile points include Bell, Andice, Taylor, Nolan, and Travis, several of which are deeply notched (Black 1989). These artifacts could have served as knives and projectile points. Bison were hunted intensively at the start of the Middle Archaic, but, as the climate became drier, a reliance on dry climate plants such as sotol probably became common. The end of the Middle Archaic may have been the most xeric conditions ever in the area (Collins 1995). The climatic change was accompanied by a technological change as Nolan and Travis points, which are thick and have narrow blades, first appear in the archaeological record (Collins 1995). Burned rock middens first appeared around 5000 B.P. and became increasingly common, although their exact functions may have varied based on the culture and environment (Johnson and Goode 1994). While the development of burned rock middens suggests a greater reliance on plant foods, the Middle Archaic tool kits would suggest that hunting was still a significant source of food (Prewitt 1985:222–226).

During the succeeding Late Archaic period (4,000 to 1,300–1,200 B.P.), populations continued to increase throughout Central Texas (Collins 1995). The establishment of large cemeteries suggests certain groups had strong territorial ties (Story 1985:40). Certain lifeways, including the use of burned rock middens, continued from the Middle Archaic to

the Late Archaic, however (Collins 1995:384). Recent studies suggest that midden formation actually culminated much later, during the subsequent Late Prehistoric period (Black et al. 1997:270–284; Kleinbach et al. 1995:795). Important cultural and technological changes occurred at the end of the period. As Collins (1995:384–385) notes, “diverse and comparatively complex archeological manifestations toward the end of the Late Archaic attest to the emergence of kinds of human conduct without precedent in the area.” This period (2,250–1,250 B.P.) is sometimes referred to as the Transitional Archaic (Turner and Hester 1993). During this time, smaller dart point forms such as Darl and Frio were developed (Turner and Hester 1993). These points were probably technological ancestors of the first Late Prehistoric arrow point types, and they may have overlapped temporally (Hester 1995). Several researchers believe that the increased interaction between groups at the end of the Late Archaic was an important catalyst for cultural change (Collins 1995; Johnson and Goode 1994).

LATE PREHISTORIC PERIOD

The end of the Transitional Archaic introduced the bow and arrow technologies, which is indicated by the increasingly smaller size of projectile points. The subsequent period is now commonly referred to as the Late Prehistoric period, dating from 1,250 to 260 B.P. in Central Texas (Collins 1995; Turner and Hester 1993). Characteristic artifacts include small arrow points as well as a variety of specific use tools. The Austin and Toyah intervals of the Late Prehistoric, originally recognized by Suhm (1960) and Jelks (1962), remain accepted divisions for the period. These style intervals may represent distinct cultural entities (e.g., Johnson 1994), although others challenge this view (e.g., Black and Creel 1997).

During the earlier Austin interval, burned rock midden use may have reached its maximum

based on conclusions by Black and Creel (1997). Characteristic arrow point types of the Austin interval include Scallorn and Edwards (Collins 1995; Turner and Hester 1993). By the Toyah interval, plainware ceramics appeared, indicating possible influence in the region from ceramic producing cultures to the east and north (Perttula et al. 1995). Data from Hall's Cave in Kerr County indicate that the climate of South-Central Texas began to dry around 1,000 B.P. (Toomey et al. 1993). This drying trend may have resulted in a change in vegetation that made Central and South Texas more conducive to bison migration into the area, and bison remains in archaeological sites in the region became common after 750 B.P. (Dillehay 1974; Huebner 1991).

Most Toyah sites have the distinctive Perdiz arrow point, and some sites also have bison processing tool kits. This technological change has been interpreted as the spread of an ethnic group by Johnson (1994) and as the spread of technological ideas in response to opportunities provided by an increased bison population in the Late Prehistoric by Ricklis (1992). Increasing complexity in subsistence patterns and very high prehistoric populations are postulated for the Late Prehistoric period (Collins 1995).

METHODS

BACKGROUND REVIEW

SWCA conducted a background archeological literature and records search of the 433-acre Rogers Ranch MDP on October 19, 2005. For this research, an SWCA archaeologist searched site files, records, and maps housed at the Texas Archaeological Research Laboratory (TARL) and the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) Library. Additionally, the Texas Historic Sites Atlas (Atlas) online database was utilized for locating any previously recorded surveys and historic or prehistoric

archeological sites located within 1 mile of the project area. In addition to identifying recorded archeological sites, the review included the following types of information on the Atlas: National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) properties, State Archeological Landmarks (SALs), Official Texas Historical Markers (OTHMs), Registered Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHLs), cemeteries, and local neighborhood surveys. The archaeologist also examined the following sources: the *Soil Survey of Bexar County, Texas*, the *Geologic Atlas of Texas*, and the Castle Hills USGS 7.5-minute topographic maps of the project area. A review of aerial photographs was conducted to assist in determining whether any standing buildings or structures are located on the property.

FIELD METHODS

SWCA conducted a cultural resource survey with a focus on areas that have never been surveyed (roughly 273 acres of the 433-acre tract). Based on a discussion with the City of San Antonio Historic Preservation Office (HPO), it was understood that previously surveyed areas as well as previously recorded sites that were considered non-significant did not require survey. As the pipeline is located in the Salado Creek bed (which has been previously surveyed), SWCA only briefly examined this area. The areas that have never been surveyed were walked by three archaeologists on parallel survey transects spaced 30-m apart. The crew did not excavate any shovel tests during the survey of these areas because the surface was comprised of shallow, rocky upland soils and pervasive exposed bedrock. During the survey archaeologists examined the ground surface and erosional profiles for cultural materials. In addition to the surveying of these areas, SWCA revisited four previously recorded sites located within the project area.

RESULTS

BACKGROUND REVIEW

The background review revealed that portions of the project area (roughly 160 acres) have been previously surveyed for cultural resources and eight previously recorded sites are located within or directly adjacent to the project area (Figure 3). The previously conducted work consists of three surveys and two NRHP eligibility testing investigations, one at site 41BX22 (The Rodgers Site) and one at 41BX444.

Archaeologists from CAR performed two surveys on behalf of the Soil Conservation Service in 1974 and 1979. The 1974 survey resulted in the discovery of five archeological sites (41BX442, 41BX443, 41BX444, 41BX445, and 41BX446) within the project area. None were recommended for further work, though specific eligibility recommendations are lacking in the site forms for 41BX444-446, prehistoric lithic scatters and campsites. In 1978, CAR personnel returned to site 41BX444, a prehistoric campsite with a small midden, to conduct test excavations. These excavations revealed Early to Middle Archaic artifacts within a broad but shallow lithic scatter around one midden (Maynard et al. 1990:24). The site was later revisited during a survey performed by Geo-Marine, Inc. for a proposed sewerline being permitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Ft. Worth District in 1990 (Maynard et al. 1990). Geo-Marine's further exploration of the site with shovel tests determined it was not significant and no further work was recommended due to disturbances and its shallow, deflated nature.

Geo-Marine, Inc. also revisited two of the sites (41BX442 and 41BX443) previously recorded by CAR archaeologists during the 1974 survey and combined sites 41BX442 and 41BX443 as one site. Geo-Marine, Inc. re-

corded two additional sites (41BX875 and 41BX876) within the project area during their investigations. Site 41BX875 is a multi-component site with a mixed prehistoric component and a historic component. Site 41BX876 is a prehistoric open lithic scatter. No further work was recommended for all of these sites. Table 1 lists the sites, site type, cultural time period, eligibility status, and recommendations of further work.

Recorded in 1965, site 41BX22 is a prehistoric site with three major activity areas: a terrace bench site with a burned rock midden, a small cave, and quarry areas on the bluff overlooking the bench and cave sites. The terrace site was test excavated by students in the mid 1960's. Primarily Late Prehistoric and Late Archaic materials were recovered with the Middle Archaic and possibly the Early Archaic being represented. Relic hunters have since thoroughly destroyed this portion of the site which lies just north of the Loop 1604 right-of-way and adjacent to the Rogers Ranch MDP and sewer line (Goode 1985).

The State Department of Highways and Public Transportation conducted NRHP eligibility testing of site 41BX22, the Rodgers Site, in 1984. The NRHP eligibility testing consisted of the testing of the activity area in and around the cave site. The testing project was brief and no statements regarding the time range of occupation could be assessed. The site was later revisited during the Geo-Marine, Inc. survey and was recommended for further testing. According to Maynard et al. (1990), the site may retain some intact deposits below the extent of looting and previous testing in the terrace portion of the site. Only the terrace and quarry portions of the site are located adjacent to the Rogers Ranch project area, not within. The cave is located south of Loop 1604, far outside the project area.

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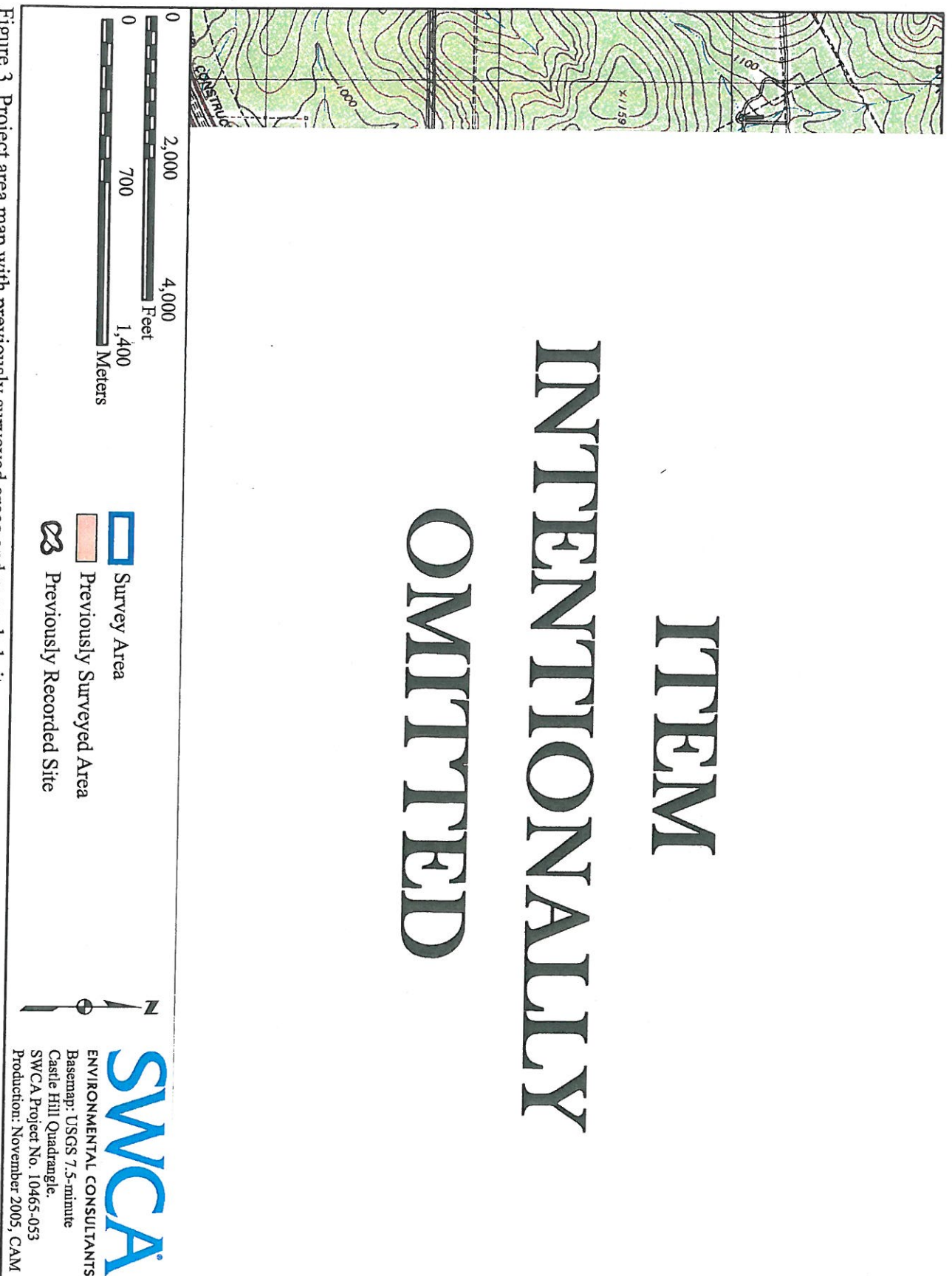


Figure 3. Project area map with previously surveyed areas and recorded sites.

FIELD SURVEY

On October 24, 2005, SWCA archaeologists conducted an intensive pedestrian survey of the portions of the project area that have not been previously surveyed, roughly 273 acres. This mainly included the rocky upland hills and slopes on either side of Salado Creek. In general, the survey documented upland terrain with no potential to contain buried cultural resources. As mentioned, no shovel tests were placed in these areas due to the very shallow to non-existent soils (Figure 4). Naturally occurring chert was observed outcropping from the bedrock in several areas and occasional flakes or cores were noted. However, none of these areas were substantial in size or content (usually 2-10 flakes scattered over a broad area), instead, a pervasive but sparse scatter of lithics was seen across portions of the hills. As no clearly definable areas were observed and no temporal indicators were found, no archaeological sites were documented. These cultural materials undoubtedly represent opportunistic utilization of the natural cherts by prehistoric occupants over the past 9,000 years.

Initially, the HPO requested that all eight of the previously recorded sites (41BX22, 41BX442-446, 41BX875, and 41BX876) within or adjacent to the project area be re-examined and re-evaluated. Prior to the survey, SWCA examined records pertaining to these eight sites and found that most were considered non-significant while others had inadequate information or were not located within the proposed MDP boundaries delineated on a project map provided to SWCA. On October 25, 2005 SWCA archaeologists revisited four (41BX22 and 41BX444-41BX446) of the eight previously recorded sites to confirm their nature and extent as the site forms were ambiguous or confusing as to recommendations for further work. The remainder of

the sites was not visited as they had clearly been determined to be non-significant.

41BX22

41BX22 was recorded as a prehistoric campsite with three areas of activity: a terrace bench site with a burned rock midden, a quarry site, and a cave site. The site form indicated that the portions of the site had been tested in the mid-1960's and that the site had also been partially destroyed from relic hunters (Goode 1984). Only the terrace and quarry portions of the site are located adjacent to the Rodgers Ranch project area. Upon revisiting the site SWCA archaeologists observed multiple disturbances from residential development and very recent, heavy looting activities (Figure 5). The site is bounded on the east by a new apartment complex, and numerous recent, large looter pits were observed excavated into the terrace site. Only a narrow, 10-12 m wide by 20 m long band of the terrace remains, bounded by limestone bluffs to the north, Salado Creek to the south, heavily disturbed Loop 1604 to the east, and rocky terrain to the west. The new apartments rest upon the quarry portion of the site.

Maynard et al. (1990) concluded that this portion of the site may still have some degree of intactness but they could not make a clear determination of eligibility on the site. However, due to the continued looting of the site since the mid-1960's and based on the current survey results, SWCA considers the research value of the terrace portion of the site adjacent to the project area to be very low. Additionally, the site is outside of the proposed undertaking and will not be affected by the activities of the proposed project. No further work is recommended on the site.

41BX444

Site 41BX444 was also recorded during the survey conducted by CAR in 1974. According

to the site form, the site is located on a terrace north of Salado Creek. The site was recorded as a campsite with a burned rock midden and a lithic scatter with two large looters pits. Recorded in 1974, the site was subsequently tested and further work was apparently recommended at this time. However, upon examination in 1990, Geo-Marine deemed the site ineligible for inclusion into the NRHP (Maynard et al. 1990).

Upon revisiting the site, SWCA encountered heavily disturbed areas resulting from both past and recent looting activities (Figures 6 and 7). A fairly recent bulldozed road leads down to the site area. Based on a thorough survey of the area, SWCA extended the site boundaries to the northeast approximately 100 m by including two previously unidentified small burned rock middens. These middens were apparently missed during previous surveys of the site but were located by the looters. All of the burned rock midden areas have been recently looted and evidence of screened dirt was observed at each (see Figure 6). Each midden is very small (roughly 8-10 m in diameter), only 30-40 cm in thickness, and all rest directly upon bedrock. Shallow soils or exposed bedrock surround the middens and sparse artifacts (lithic debitage, occasional core, burned rock) were observed in these areas. Two shovel tests placed at two of the middens revealed disturbed, shallow soils. Unfortunately, the research value of the site is now very low due to its compromised integrity from looting over the course of decades. SWCA concurs with the findings of the previous researchers, site 41BX444 is considered non-significant and no further work is recommended.

41BX445 AND 41BX446

Sites 41BX445 and 41BX446 areas located in the northwestern portion of the subject property (see Figure 3). Recorded as lithic scatters, SWCA examined the site areas to con-

firm these findings as the notes from the 1970s were sparse and no definitive recommendations of significance were made (though they were suggested). A walkover of both sites corroborated the initial findings, sparse debitage and an occasional core were observed in each site, lying atop limestone bedrock or shallow soil. Neither site is considered significant and no further work is recommended at either site.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

SWCA conducted a background literature review and intensive field survey of portions of the 433-acre Rogers Ranch MDP and a 1.2-mile outfall sewer main located in northwestern Bexar County, Texas. The project was completed on behalf of Bitterblue Inc. and in compliance with the City of San Antonio's Historic Preservation and Design Section of the Unified Development Code. SWCA's investigations included a thorough background literature review and intensive pedestrian survey to identify and explore any and all cultural resources in the project area.

The background review revealed that portions of the project area have been previously surveyed for cultural resources and eight sites (41BX22, 41BX442/41BX443, 41BX444-446 and 41BX875-876) are documented within or directly adjacent to the proposed project area. All but one (41BX22) of these sites has been found to be *non-significant* by previous researchers. The previously conducted investigations consisted of three surveys focused on the Salado Creek drainage and a NRHP eligibility testing investigations of portions of site 41BX22 and 41BX444. Of the eight sites, SWCA archaeologists revisited four to determine their current nature, confirm the findings of previous researchers, and answer questions raised by the site forms. The remaining sites were not visited as they are located outside of

Table 1. Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites in or adjacent to the Rogers Ranch MDP Project Area.

Site Trinomial	Site Type	Time Period	Eligibility Status	Recommendations	Comments
41BX22	Terrace/Rockshelter	Archaic	Ineligible	No further work recommended	Has been disturbed at project area
41BX442/ 41BX443	Open lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Ineligible	No further work recommended	Two sites were combined as one
41BX444	Burned rock midden	Prehistoric	Ineligible	No further work recommended	Heavily looted
41BX445	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Uncertain	No further work recommended	
41BX446	Lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Uncertain	No further work recommended	
41BX875	Open lithic scatter and modern historic structure	Mixed-Prehistoric and Historic	Ineligible	No further work recommended	
41BX876	Open lithic scatter	Prehistoric	Ineligible	No further work recommended	

IMAGE RESTRICTED

Figure 4. Typical setting across project area, notice exposed bedrock and limited soils.

IMAGE RESTRICTED

Figure 5. Heavily looted area on terrace portion of Site 41BX22.

IMAGE RESTRICTED



Figure 6. Looted midden at site 41BX444, notice screened backdirt in foreground.



IMAGE RESTRICTED

Figure 7. Looted midden at 41BX444, archaeologist is standing in recent bulldoze cut.

the project area and/or have been definitely determined to be non-significant.

On October 24–25, 2005, SWCA archaeologist conducted field investigations of the unsurveyed portions of the project area (273 acres of the 433-acre tract). The survey revealed a rocky, upland environment outside of the Salado Creek drainage, typical for this portion of San Antonio and the Balcones Escarpment. During the survey, no shovel tests were excavated due to the upland terrain and very shallow to non-existent soils. Though occasional prehistoric artifacts (debitage) were seen diffusely and sparsely scattered in the uplands, no archaeological sites were documented.

SWCA's examination of four of the eight previously recorded sites confirmed the findings of previous researchers. Overall, due to disturbance from residential development, looting activities, lack of temporal markers, and lack of buried archaeological deposits such as features, none of the eight sites within or adjacent to the project area are considered significant. No further archaeological work is recommended for these sites or the Rogers Ranch project area.

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